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Book on Oswald Challenges FBI Case

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OSWALD: ASSASSIN OR FALL GUY? by Joachim Joesten, Marzani & Munsell, Publishers, N. Y., 158 pp., \$3.95.

TO JOACHIM JOESTEN, a freelance writer, goes the distinction of authoring the first U.S. published book on the case of Lee Harvey Oswald.

The book is a fast product and will undoubtedly be followed by many more comprehensive works on the subject. New evidence and material surrounding the assassination of President Kennedy, and on Oswald and Ruby, is coming to light continually as we have seen in just the weeks since the appearance of the book.

Possibly the decisive material is yet to come. But that in no way diminishes the value of Joesten's book, both as a summation of the available material to date and its analyses.

But most important in getting the book out fast was the stated objective of the author to influence a widened investigation and prevent the "closing" of the case on Oswald as the sole criminal, and to shift main attention to the areas, so far ignored, where those who need an Oswald as the "fall guy," are concentrated.

JOESTEN CONCLUDES with the chapter titled "The Court

of Last Resort" in which he expresses confidence that popular pressure for the facts will yet force out the truth even if it takes a political "bombshell."

Joesten doubts that the Warren report will depart in essentials from the findings placed before it by the FBI.

The book is in two parts. The first part examines what has publicly become known of the evidence. The second part examines the many threads that tied Oswald to the FBI and CIA and indications that the assassination was the work of a conspiracy.

There is also a documentary section of photos and photostats of material bearing on the evidence or helpful in following the author's analyses.

Joesten's line of examination of the evidence can be judged from the fact that he dedicates the book to Mark Lane, the former New York Assemblyman, who undertook to be Oswald's attorney, and presented the Warren Commission a brief refuting or putting in doubt much of the evidence against Oswald that was generally taken for granted.

Joesten enlarges on that material, but he stresses also his conviction that Oswald was "involved." Joesten puts it this way:

"I wish to make it absolutely clear that I believe Oswald innocent only as charged, but he was involved with the conspirators in some way. This is what 'fall guy' implies." (Author's emphasis)

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IN THIS RESPECT it should be noted that Mr. Lane himself, in his latest statements, shifted emphasis from earlier flat assertions that Oswald was innocent, to the view that he was not the "sole assassin."

Joesten does a good job of tearing to pieces much of the case of Dallas Police and the FBI. He collected much from the dispatches of the numerous correspondents on the spot. He personally surveyed the field and drew heavily from European correspondents who were in Dallas and whose dispatches were more independent of FBI influence.

Joesten also brings together the numerous bits of information that pointed to Oswald's employment by the FBI, CIA or both. He puts the many pieces of the puzzle together into an emerging consistent pattern of undercover work. Joesten says:

"Once Oswald is seen as an FBI agent provocateur with a CIA background and connections, the most puzzling discrepancies

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